

Amendments to the Claims:

The claims below will replace all prior listings of claims in the application:

1. through 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) An absorbent pad for placement in a container comprising:

 a base panel;
 one or more side panels comprising a top sheet, a side panel bottom sheet, and one or more islands disposed between said top sheet and said side panel bottom sheet;

 a hinge, wherein said hinge connects an edge of said base panel to an edge of each of said one or more side panels to provide complete folding of said one or more side panels onto said base panel, and

 wherein said one or more side panels cover at least a portion of a side of the container in which the absorbent pad is placed, and

wherein said side panel bottom sheet provides structure for fluid uptake through said side panel bottom sheet.

15. (previously presented) The absorbent pad according to claim 14, wherein said one or more side panels are foldable, allowing the absorbent pad to conform to a base and sidewalls of a similarly dimensioned package or container.

16. (currently amended) The absorbent pad according to claim 14, An absorbent pad for placement in a container comprising:

a base panel, wherein said base panel further comprises a top sheet, a base panel bottom sheet, and one or more islands disposed between said top sheet of said base panel and said base panel bottom sheet of said base panel;

one or more side panels comprising a top sheet, a side panel bottom sheet, and one or more islands disposed between said top sheet and said side panel bottom sheet;

a hinge, wherein said hinge connects an edge of said base panel to an edge of each of said one or more side panels to provide complete folding of said one or more side panels onto said base panel,

wherein said one or more side panels cover at least a portion of a side of the container in which the absorbent pad is placed, and

wherein said base panel bottom sheet provides structure for fluid uptake through said base panel bottom sheet.

17. through 29. (canceled)

30. (previously presented) The absorbent pad according to claim 14, wherein said hinge provides a space between said base panel and each of said one or more side panels.

31. (previously presented) The absorbent pad according to claim 14, wherein said hinge is a film connection between said base panel and each of said one or more side panels.